

OUTCOME 5 – Social protection

By 2015, more people, especially the poor and vulnerable, benefit from improved social safety nets (SSN) and social security programmes, as an integral part of a sustainable national social protection system

Introduction

The UN system is working with Government and civil society to address four key dimensions of the social protection challenge: 1) ensure improved coverage, quality and equitable geographic access; 2) reduce fragmentation and gaps and increase policy coherence through further developing common systems of identification, targeting, and delivery; 3) address the financial sustainability of the system by identifying a more long-term funding base; 4) establish a cross-referral mechanism at the national and sub-national levels.

The UN plans to continue working with the Government to expand the existing social security system by developing policies to cover workers in the formal and informal economy, with a focus on expanding health insurance and ensuring that the national social security fund is in line with existing legislation. The overall goal remains improved access to inclusive social protection measures, reduction of gaps and fragmentation, mitigation of the impact of shocks and achievement and acceleration of the CMDGs.

2012 and 2013 Results

More than two years have passed since the launch and dissemination of the National Social Protection Strategy for the Poor and Vulnerable 2011-2015 (NSPS). Throughout 2012 and 2013, the UN advocated for the inclusion of social protection and key instruments in the draft NSDP. The UN and development partners engaged in the Social Protection Dialogue conducted under the Interim Working Group on Social Safety Net/Social Protection (IWG-SP) – a subset of the Technical Working Group on Food Security and Nutrition (TWG) – as well as through the Social Protection Core Group (SPCG) of the Interim Working Group for Social Protection (IWG-SP). The UN provided technical and financial support to CARD SPCU in the elaboration of a NSPS Mid-Term Review (MTR) to reflect 2011 – 2013 successes and challenges and set clear targets for the remaining two years.

The UN conducted research and studies informing the development of a national social protection implementation plan, advocating for social protection as an investment. These include: studies on Social Protection Expenditure and Performance Review (SPER); Financial Assessment of the NSPS, toward Integrated Employment and Social Protection Policies, and Social Security for the formal economy; analysis of Fiscal Space for Social Protection in partnership with the Supreme National Economic Council (SNEC) and Overseas Development Institute (ODI); a study on ‘Rate of Return on social protection instruments in Cambodia’ ; a study of ‘Out-of-Pocket Expenditure’ on health and the degree of financial protection provided by social health protection mechanisms in Cambodia; and a social protection research fund (initiative) managed by CARD-SPCU with UN support.

Further, the UN has worked to support the Government in improving on-going social protection programmes, to increase coverage and enhance impact, inclusiveness and sustainability.

The school feeding programme, implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MoEYS) has been scaled up for two consecutive years, with the scholarships programme (both food and cash) reaching almost 100,000 students in 62% of primary schools nationwide in school year 2012-2013. A food versus cash scholarship evaluation was conducted, results of which are expected in early 2014. Furthermore, MoEYS has taken over responsibilities for the food scholarship programme in Kratie and Kampot provinces as part of a gradual increase in national ownership of the school feeding programme.

Partnership between the UN, MoEYS and a range of other development partners contributed to increased allocation to the sector within the 2014 budget. This resulted in higher per student and lump sum school operating budgets for primary and secondary schools overall and even higher for remote and poor performing schools.

The UN supported social services for vulnerable children and women in 101 communes with funds provided through the social service envelop. As a result, an average of 4 percent of the commune/sangkat budget was allocated to social services. In addition, 248 community preschools were supported to increase children's access to preschool in rural areas.

Innovative cash transfer models, using mobile banking in partnership with a microfinance institution, have been successfully piloted in UN-supported cash scholarship and cash-for-work programmes, increasing programme sustainability, transferability and scalability. The UN worked closely with CARD and relevant ministries on the design of cash transfer pilot programme for women and children, and helped draft an operational manual in partnership with the World Bank.

Further, the UN re-designed the existing food-for-assets programme into a more social protection-oriented, inclusive and better integrated Productive Assets and Livelihoods Support programme (PALS).

The UN, CARD, relevant ministries and sub-national administrations launched a feasibility study and operational tools for a pilot initiative on Social Service Delivery Mechanism (SSDM) expanding the One Window Service Office (OWSO) model to rural areas by integrating social protection and employment services. The pilot will be implemented in early 2014 in two selected districts in Siem Reap province.

The UN was working closely with the Cambodia National Council for Children (CNCC) on social budgeting research on primary and lower secondary education, child protection and nutrition and produced a working paper on 'Analysis of Child Deprivation and Inequality in Cambodia'. The Child Labour Monitoring System was developed at national and sub-national levels. The IdPoor system, recognized as the main targeting mechanism for social protection and the development of a user-friendly IdPoor Atlas was further supported by the UN.

The UN was providing technical assistance to the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) to review and to extend its IT system to support the implementation of Social Health Insurance and provided financial support to a consultation on provider payment mechanisms organized by NSSF.

The Ministry of Health (MoH), with support of the UN and other partners facilitated the development of a national health financing policy with a focus on social health protection. A review of HIV sensitivity of social protection was completed by the CARD and the National AIDS Authority (NAA) thanks to UN support.

In both years the UN provided technical support to the development of a National Social Protection Monitoring Framework. This exercise included the modification of the Cambodian Socio-Economic Survey (CSES) questionnaire to include internationally comparable indicators, in consultation with the National Institute of Statistics (NIS) and relevant UN agencies; a capacity assessment and the capacity development/training plan of government officials within CARD- SPCU to use the Monitoring Framework in the future. During 2013, a "Demand Need Assessment Study" on Micro Insurance was conducted in collaboration with CARD-SPCU and the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF).

In 2012, the UN assisted vulnerable people affected by the 2011 floods during the crucial relief and early recovery and rehabilitation phases. Assistance consisted of provisions of food and cash transfers for relief, food-for-assets and vulnerable group assistance schemes; provision of learning materials and other assistance to schools; and support to increase food production. In both, 2012 and 2013, the UN provided basic supplies for water quality and sanitation and shelter materials. The UN-NGO Humanitarian Response Forum (HRF) was established in 2012 to ensure better preparedness and response, aiming at strengthened coordination, joint assessments, contingency

planning, and information management. The HRF conducted a total of three joint rapid assessments in the period; one in Banteay Meanchey in 2012, and two in 2013 with the National Committee for Disaster Management (in Otdar Meanchey and a multi-province assessment covering Banteay Meanchey, Battambang and Siem Reap). In 2013, the UN supported an early recovery needs assessment in order to assess losses and damages of the flash floods. The assessment covered three main sectors: economic, social and infrastructure.

At the regional level, the UN and the CARD-SPCU jointly developed a regional social protection framework laying the foundation for a more structured regional dialogue within ASEAN. This joint advocacy effort contributed to the adoption of the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection by ASEAN leaders in the 23rd summit in Brunei Darussalam in October 2013.

Challenges

Fragmentation of social protection programmes and donor-driven initiatives.

Limited scale-up of existing social protection programmes and delayed roll-out of new programmes under the NSPS.

Uncertainty of funding lead to unsustainable implementation of NSPS.

Clear role for coordination of social protection activities for CARD-SPCU and function of line ministries.

Lack of SP coordination mechanism at sub-national level where the actual implementation is taking place.

Capacity strengthening is needed for M&E of social policies.

Expansion of participation of other key actors in the field of social protection, namely NGOs, the private sector and sub-national planning bodies.

Priorities for 2014 and 2015

Strengthen advocacy on larger national investments on SP and resourcing of CARD through promoting high level inter-ministerial dialogue among CARD, MEF and line ministries using the newly TWG mechanism.

Reach more poor and vulnerable people through improved and expanded social safety nets: Scale up existing programmes and support the introduction of coordinated and financially sustainable, scalable pilots.

Support the implementation of social health protection reforms outlined in the national health financing policy.

Work with CARD and relevant line ministries to document the successes and impact of the above potential SP Programs to advocate for budget allocation by MEF.

Support evidence building on existing and pilot schemes to promote more investment in social protection (including gathering and disseminating lessons learnt, and coordinated research agenda in partnership with relevant bodies)

Finalise mid-term review and cost action plan of NSPS (including analysis of fiscal space for social protection) and promote ownership of the plan by CARD, MEF and line ministries

Create an enabling environment for social protection through policy support, institutional strengthening and operational learning through Government-managed pilot initiatives (e.g. PALS, SSDM, cash scholarships, and CCT)

Advocate for the inclusion of social protection in on-going national policy development (including sectoral plans/policies) and support the inter-ministerial dialogue on social protection mainstreaming.

Support MOH in the organization of a national conference to build consensus among key multi-sectoral stakeholders around universal health coverage as a national strategic objective.

Support capacity development of social protection-related government bodies (national and sub-national).
Support and advocate for the development of sustainable institutional arrangements and financial mechanisms for social protection, in line with the Decentralization and De-concentration reform.
Identify relevant frameworks which could give consistency to the programmes in place, such as the Adaptive Social Protection Framework or the Resilient Livelihoods Framework.
Support the organization of an ASEAN regional technical consultation on Social protection.

Outcome area 5 expenditures for 2012 – 2014:

Estimated expenditure 2012: \$24,939,974

Estimated expenditure 2013: \$17,719,410

Projected expenditure 2014: \$27,084,060

Quantitative Analysis – indicators to be monitored in 2012 and 2013

#	Indicator	Baseline	2012		2013		Planned Target 2015
			Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	
5.2	* Prevalence of underweight (weight for age) for children below 5 years of age (Percent)	28.8	N/A	28.3 (2010 CDHS)	N/A	28.3 (2010 CDHS)	19.2
5.4	Percentage of affected vulnerable groups receiving emergency assistance including food, sanitation, water, shelter and other immediate response interventions within prescribed timeframes (Percent)	N/A	N/A	75.6 ¹	N/A	26 ²	80
5.5	A Sub-Decree and a National Social Protection Strategy including M&E framework with costed annual plan developed in collaborative multisectoral process. (Number)	0	N/A	NSPS M&E Framework developed with relevant indicators	N/A	The study on Cost of Malnutrition, The Mid-term Review on NSPS; no sub-degree; no costed action plan	Costed action plans
5.9	Harmonised inter-agency targeting mechanisms, taking into account specific vulnerability of women, children, disabled, elderly, youth, HIV/Aids, TB victims (Percent) to internal (lifecycle) and external (Economic, Climate Change) shocks.	IdPoor system in place in 10 provinces out of 24 provinces (41.7%)	N/A	95.8% IdPoor system in place in 23 out of 24 provinces (all rural areas) and updated in 8 provinces in 2012	100	100 ID Poor covers all provinces	N/A
5.11	Disaster needs assessment conducted during every declared disaster	NCDM reporting mechanisms	N/A	1 joint needs assessment after the floods in Banteay Meanchey ³	N/A	2 Humanitarian Response Forum (UN/NGO) assessments jointly with NCDM	N/A

¹ Number refers to the response to the 2011 floods. The 3W matrix was compiled by OCHA with inputs from UN agencies, NCDM, IOM, NGOs, Cambodian Red Cross and other actors involved in the flood response. It is based only on inputs received and might include duplication of people assisted by different programmes or by repeated distributions. This tool has been designed to facilitate agencies in planning their operations, and exchanging information on current and planned activities. It was not meant as a reporting tool although information from it provides an indication of the consolidated response to the 2011 floods. The total number of flood-affected people is from NCDM.

² According to the latest 3W matrix for the 2013 flood response 100,341 HHs were provided with emergency support. According to NCDM (18 October), 377,354 HHs (26 per cent) were affected.

³ Was not a declared disaster.

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 2013 Annual Monitoring Summary

#	Indicator	Baseline	2012		2013		Planned Target 2015
			Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	
5.13	Vulnerability situation maps and vulnerable group profiles annually updated at national, provincial, and selected district levels. (Number)	Systems not in place yet	1	0	1	1 Small area estimation study completed; commune-level estimates and maps of poverty and malnutrition produced. IdPoor Atlas (with poverty maps and vulnerability profiles) produced with data from IdPoor Rounds 4 & 5.	1
5.14	Integrated information system for monitoring and reporting developed, including food availability and food market instability. (Number)	Systems not in place yet	1	1 (National Information System developed in 2013)	1	1	1 National Information System
5.15	Number of interim working group (IWG) meetings per year with representation from government line ministries and core partners. (Number)	Ad hoc	6	6	Bi-monthly	1	6
5.19	* Number of rural poor provided with employment through labour-based public works programme (Number, *% out of tot population in that province)	N/A	N/A	544,952 work days only WFP data	5000000	480952 work days only WFP data	N/A
5.20	* Poor children receiving scholarships for primary and secondary education (Number, *% out of tot children of that age group in that province)	26,700	N/A	123929 4.13%	N/A	153363 5.12% (WFP primary school and MoEYS secondary school data)	53,400 7.2%
5.25	* Percentage of workers in formal employment who are covered by social security programs as per the NSSF and NSSFCs (Percent)	Work Injury NSSF: 85%, Pension, NSSFC: 15%		Work Injury, NSSF: 703,948 workers (55.15%), Pension, NSSFC: 15 % ⁴	N/A	Work Injury, NSSF: 780,376 workers (61.14%), Pension, NSSFC: 15 %	(NSSF +NSSFC) 100%

⁴ No update information of the NSSFC 's members, use old figure

#	Indicator	Baseline	2012		2013		Planned Target 2015
			Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	
5.28	Percentage of provinces with Social security institutions, including social insurance agencies, established (Percent)	25%	50%	42%	100%	84%	100%
5.29	Percentage of enterprises having registered with social security programmes (Percent)	N/A	N/A	4,583 enterprises (64%)	N/A	6,107 enterprises (85%)	100%
5.31	Documentation and dissemination of the Cambodian social security experience through the Global Extension of Social Security (GESS) platform. (Status)	N/A	Updated law and regulations on Social Security	Update social security experiences to GESS every 3 months	Update social security development, best practices around the world	Update social security experiences to GESS every 3 months At least 5 documents of SP-related topics had been posted on GESS	Country page updated each year; country teams trained in the utilization of the platform